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I may as well hold my peace. Here comes a pretty young girl of my acquaintance, with a large stone pitcher for me to fill. May she draw a husband, while drawing her water, as Rachel did of old. Hold out your vessel, my dear! There it is, full to the brim; so now run home, peeping at your sweet image in the pitcher, as you go; and forget not, in a glass of my own liquor, to drink — ‘SUCCESS TO THE TOWN-PUMP!’ ” — pp. 201–210.

These extracts are sufficient to show the beautiful and simple style of the book before us, its vein of pleasant philosophy, and the quiet humor, which is to the face of a book what a smile is to the face of man. In speaking in terms of such high praise as we have done, we have given utterance not alone to our own feelings, but we trust to those of all gentle readers of the *Twice-told Tales*. Like children we say, “Tell us more.”

ART. IV. — 1. *Études de Géographie Critique sur une Partie de l'Afrique Septentrionale*; par M. D'AVEZAC. Paris. 1836. pp. 188.

2. *The Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London*. London. 1830–6. Six Volumes, 8vo.

AFRICA, considered in relation to its history and present state, presents little to encourage the hopes of philanthropists with respect to any very rapid improvement in the character or condition of the human species. Though it may not prove the “perfectibility of man” to be impossible, yet it surely affords little evidence that the consummation is soon to be looked for. The progress of civilization has at all times and in all countries been slow, and not always without interruption. In Africa it has, in times long since past, been in a remarkable degree retrograde. Though Africa has been known from the remotest period; though it borders on the Mediterranean, which may be regarded as having been, through all ages, near the centre of civilization; and though it includes Egypt, the great seat of ancient wisdom, yet, notwithstanding all these circumstances, it is far the least known and least civilized of the four great divisions of the globe. The period of its greatest improvement seems to have been anterior to the commencement of profane history; and the evidence of

its early progress in the arts is found, not chiefly in history, but in the imperishable monuments of ancient magnificence which abound in Egypt, Nubia, and the States of Barbary. But our acquaintance with Nubia and Barbary is sufficient to furnish only a very imperfect knowledge of the remains of ancient refinement, which are now enveloped in modern barbarism. Though Egypt is styled "the cradle of science," it may, as far as Africa is concerned, be also styled its grave; for, since the light of knowledge was extinguished in that country, there has been, to the present time, an uninterrupted succession of dark ages overshadowing nearly the whole continent.

For about three centuries, embracing nearly the whole period that has elapsed since the modern revival of learning, the chief intercourse of the most enlightened nations of Christendom with the people of Africa, has been of such a nature as has tended to debase their character and destroy their happiness; the leading object of the commercial connexion having been the prosecution of that odious traffic, the slave-trade; a trade, unhappily, not yet extinct, though now justly regarded, by the consent of civilized nations, as no better than piracy. But within the last half century, public opinion has undergone a salutary change; a more generous spirit has prevailed in relation to this benighted region; and much has been done to extend our knowledge of its geography, to impart to its natives the arts of civilized life, and to protect them from violence and outrage. These objects have been prosecuted chiefly under the direction and patronage of two English societies, one entitled the "African Association," the other, the "African Institution."

The African Association was formed in 1788, by ninety-five English gentlemen, mostly men of rank, wealth, and learning, "for promoting the discovery of the interior of Africa." The first missionary employed by the Association, was our countryman, John Ledyard, who died soon after having entered upon his mission, at Cairo, in August, 1788; and their last missionary, John Lewis Burckhardt, died in 1817. Though the agents employed by the Association, among whom Mungo Park was particularly distinguished, did much to increase our knowledge of the interior of Africa, yet no one of them was so fortunate as to solve what had long been a celebrated problem relating to African geography, the course and termination of the Niger. This honor was reserved for Richard

and John Lander, the former of whom accompanied Captain Clapperton as his servant, in his second expedition into the interior of Africa. The two Landers sailed from England on the 9th of January, 1830, in an expedition under the direction of the English government ; they arrived at Cape Coast Castle on the 22d of February ; on the 17th of June, they reached Boossà on the Niger, near which place Park and his associates met their unhappy fate ; and, descending the river, they found themselves, on the 18th of November, at the principal mouth (the river Nun) of the mysterious Niger. The African Association, discouraged by repeated failures, and the loss of many lives, discontinued sending out missionaries ; and in 1831, it became united with the “Royal Geographical Society of London.”

But notwithstanding all that has been done to increase our knowledge of Africa, a large part of the continent is absolutely *terra incognita* ; the geography of only a very small proportion of it is well defined ; and its statistics are still less ascertained. The population of this quarter of the globe is very differently estimated by different geographers and statistical writers, from 30,000,000 to 150,000,000. Hassel states it at 104,430,100, and Balbi at 60,000,000. The statement of Hassel is made in so definite a form, as would seem to imply that the number had been ascertained with great exactness ; whereas no data exist, which can enable one to form any thing more than a vague conjecture. Countries in which the arts of civilized life are unknown never have a dense population ; and we are inclined to believe that the smaller of these two estimates is nearest the truth.

The population of Egypt is better ascertained than that of any other considerable country in Africa. According to M. Mengin, it is ascertained by a tax laid on every house that there are in Egypt 603,700 houses, of which 25,000 are in the city of Cairo. With respect to the houses in Cairo, he computes, on an average, eight persons to one house ; and with respect to the other houses in Egypt, four persons to one house ; making the whole population 2,514,800. Mr. Lane, in his work recently published, entitled “The Modern Egyptians,” says ; “A few years ago, a calculation was made, founded on the number of houses in Egypt, and the supposition that the inhabitants of each house in the metropolis amount to eight persons, and in the provinces to four. This computation approximates, I believe, very nearly to the truth. The

whole population of Egypt was found by this mode of reckoning to amount to rather more than two millions and a half; but it is now much reduced. — The present population may be calculated at less than two millions." Next to Egypt, the countries of Africa best known are the States of Barbary. The following statement exhibits the population of these States, as given a few years since by the two statistical writers before mentioned.

	Population according to Hassel.	Population according to Balbi.
Morocco . . .	14,800,000	4,500,000
Algiers . . .	2,500,000	1,500,000
Tunis . . .	4,500,000	1,800,000
Tripoli . . .	2,500,000	660,000
Total,	24,300,000	8,460,000

So great is the difference between the statements of two of the most eminent statistical writers of the age; and if there is so great uncertainty with respect to the population of these countries, which are comparatively much known, how ignorant must we be respecting the real amount of the total population of Africa! In this instance, as well as in the former, we are inclined to the opinion that the lower estimate is the more correct. Our intelligent countryman, Mr. Shaler, who was American consul at Algiers from 1815 to 1828, in his "Sketches of Algiers," says; "There are various opinions respecting the population of this kingdom. As any actual enumeration is entirely out of the question, it can only be mediately estimated by comparison with other countries whose statistics are actually known. Thus upon a surface of about 30,000 square miles, considering the small number of commercial or manufacturing towns, the barbarous despotism of the government, and that by far the greater number of its inhabitants have scarcely emerged from the shepherd state, notwithstanding their fine climate, fertile soil, and temperate habits of living, I am of opinion that the population of this kingdom must be rather under than over a *million of souls*."

In July, 1830, the city of Algiers was taken by the French army under General Bourmont, and it has since been held by the French government; so that France has now a colony at the northern extremity of Africa, and England at the southern. The establishment of these colonies by two of the most prominent nations in the civilized world, has already had the effect to increase our knowledge of the geography of Africa; and it

may be reasonably hoped that it will be attended with beneficial effects upon the inhabitants.

M. D'Avezac, author of the "*Études de Géographie Critique sur une Partie de l'Afrique Septentrionale*," is the Secretary of the Geographical Society of Paris, and a corresponding member of that of London. His work (a valuable contribution to the geography of this little-known continent,) comprises a critical examination and comparison of various publications relating to North Africa, with a view to determine more accurately, than had before been done, the positions of the principal places found in the States of Barbary, for the construction of a new map. The first nineteen pages in the volume consist of the "Notes of a Journey into the Interior of North Africa by Hadji Ebn-ed-din El Eghwaati," written at the request of William B. Hodgson, Esq., who succeeded Mr. Shaler as American consul at Algiers in 1828. It was translated by him from the Arabic into English, and was reviewed, with copious extracts, in the thirty-fifth volume of this Review. M. D'Avezac has made a version of Mr. Hodgson's translation into French.

M. D'Avezac says of his work ;

"I have endeavoured entirely to remodel the representations which we now possess of this portion of North Africa, over which France has extended her sceptre ; henceforth an inalienable domain, since the heir to the throne has gone to consecrate by his sword a possession too long considered as precarious. And I have, in addition, extended this new study of the delineations of the territory to the extreme limits of the countries which border on our state of Algiers ; thus comprehending in my map the Mauritania, Numidia, Africa Proper, and Getulia, of the ancients ; since called by the Arabs, El Maghreb el Aousath, El Maghreb el-Aqssà, Afryqyah, and Belêd el-Géryd ; and now by the moderns, the States of Barbary.

"In such a study the details are of little importance. They are easily interwoven in the net which I have attempted to frame. The construction of the map has been my principal object ; for the accomplishment of which I have called to my assistance the documents which the ancients have left us, those which we have received from the Arabs, and the information which the moderns have collected. I have undertaken to illustrate one by the other ; and to derive from an examination and comparison of them results more certain, than a too easy criticism has hitherto adopted.

"I do not wish to attach to this map a value higher than that

to which it is entitled. What I said on finishing my first draft, I will here repeat after the revision which I have made. It is a work incomplete, often conjectural, one which cannot pretend to strict accuracy ; but I will add, with equal confidence of its comparative value, that this work, incomplete and conjectural, is better than those which we have hitherto possessed ; and that instead of an exactness, which it is impossible to attain in the present state of knowledge, probability, at least, has been sought, not by a compilation, more or less skilful, from previous maps, but by a careful and thorough examination of the original elements of all ages."

It is a disheartening labor to search for truth by the use of means, which we know beforehand are insufficient to enable us to obtain it with any degree of certainty. M. D'Avezac is fain to say, at the close of his laborious investigation ; "Je ne pousserai pas plus loin mes investigations sur ces contrées, où le géographe ne peut encore marcher qu'à tâtons." Such a region has the greater part of Africa always been, and such it seems likely long to continue, — a region "in which a geographer can only grope in the dark."

The public attention has been recently attracted to the North of Africa, in consequence of the signal failure of a French expedition against the town of Constantine in November last, under the command of Marshal Clausel. Constantine or Constantina, the capital of a province of the same name, is the second town in population in the regency of Algiers. Some geographers stated the population, some years since, at 80,000 or 100,000 ; but Mr. Shaler says, "It is described by the natives as containing about 25,000 inhabitants." It is the residence of a Bey, who, before the capture of Algiers by the French, was a lieutenant of the Dey of Algiers, from whom he received his appointment, possessing within his own jurisdiction an authority almost despotic. The town has a remarkable situation on an elevated, rocky eminence, which forms a peninsular promontory in the river Rummel ; and is defended by a wall and garrison. It occupies the site of the ancient Cirta, the celebrated bulwark of Numidia, the residence of its kings, and famous for a siege described by Sallust in his history of the Jugurthine war ; and the vicinity now abounds in ruins of its ancient greatness. The modern town is built wholly on the promontory ; though the ancient city was much more extensive. Dr. Shaw, in his description of the town, says ;

“Constantina, or Cirta, or Cirta Sittianorum, as it was anciently called, is well situated, by Pliny, XLVIII M. [48 Roman miles] from the sea. We learn from history that it was one of the chiefest, as well as one of the strongest cities of Numidia; the first of which circumstances is confirmed by the extent of the ruins, the latter by its particular situation. For the greater part of it has been built upon a peninsular promontory, as I may call it, inaccessible on all sides except towards the southwest, where it is joined to the continent. This promontory is computed to be a good mile in circuit, lying a little inclined to the southward; but to the northward it ends in a precipice of at least one hundred fathoms perpendicular, from whence we have a beautiful landscape over a great variety of vales, mountains, and rivers, which lie to a great distance before it.”

Marshal Clausel, in his Official Report, says;

“Constantine is admirably situated, and at all points except one, is wonderfully defended by nature. A ravine of sixty yards wide, and of an immense depth, at the bottom of which runs the Oued Rummel, presents as a scarp and counterscarp a perpendicular rock, equally unassailable by bombardment or undermining. The plateau of Mansoura has communication with the town by a very narrow bridge, terminating a double gateway of great strength, and well defended by musketry from the surrounding houses and gardens.”

The town was defended by a garrison of between twelve hundred and fifteen hundred Turks and Kabyles, commanded by Ben Haissa, the lieutenant of the Bey Achmet. Owing to the inclemency of the weather and the wretched state of the roads, the French troops endured great hardship and suffering, and became weary, diseased, and unfit for service; and a few miles before reaching Constantine, while passing through an almost impracticable defile, exposed to the incessant attack of the enemy, they were deprived of nearly the whole of their baggage and provisions. They commenced their attack on the town on the 22d of November; and, though it was resolutely defended, they did not give up the effort till compelled by the danger of starvation and the loss of their remaining ammunition, which was captured by the Arabs, who beheaded all their prisoners. “The weather,” says the Marshal, “was still horrible. The snow fell in thick flakes, and the cold was excessive. The troops near and around Constantine were overwhelmed by rain, snow, hail, and mud. The loss was inconsiderable from the fire of the place.” On the 25th, the army commenced a difficult and disastrous retreat. Of the

seven thousand men who accompanied the commander, only fifteen hundred returned to Bona, and these were either ill or suffering under extreme hunger and fatigue.

It was doubtless little expected by the commander, that the elements would prove his most formidable enemy ; that in November he would find a Russian winter to the south of the Mediterranean ; and that his troops would be exposed to sufferings, similar to those endured by the French army in the disastrous expedition against Moscow in the winter of 1812. The climate of this country is described as uncommonly mild and pleasant. Dr. Shaw, speaking of Algiers and Tunis, says ; “The Tell, or cultivated parts of these kingdoms, lying between 34° and 37° north latitude, enjoy a very wholesome and temperate climate, neither too hot and sultry in summer, nor too sharp and cold in winter. During the space of twelve years that I attended the Factory of Algiers, I found the thermometer twice only contracted to the freezing point ; and then the whole country, which was very unusual, was covered with snow.” Mr. Shaler also states ; “The inhabited part [of Algiers] enjoys a healthy and agreeable temperature of climate, which is neither oppressively hot in summer, nor severely cold in winter.” The following extract forms the commencement of Marshal Clausel’s “Official Report of the Expedition to Constantine,” addressed to the “Governor-General of the [French] Possession in North Africa,” dated at Bona, December 1, 1836.

“I had the honor of informing you, before the departure of the expedition, how much difficulty I had in collecting at Bona the troops and stores, which contrary winds and storms had dispersed in all directions. While the troops embarked suffered from being kept so long on board, abundant rains were falling at Bona ; and the different corps, as they arrived, not being able to recover themselves from the effects of their voyage, I was obliged to leave in the hospitals two thousand out of the seven thousand infantry I had succeeded in assembling. The weather having become fine on November 12th, I left Bona on the 13th, and set out on my march against Constantine, with seven thousand men of all arms. On the 19th we encamped at Raz Oned Zenati, and here commenced the most cruel, unexpected, and unparalleled hardships. We were in the most elevated region ; and during the night, rain, snow, and hail fell so constantly, and in such abundance, that we were exposed to all the rigors of a winter at St. Petersburg, while the ground resembled, in the eyes of old officers, the mire of Warsaw.

“We were within sight of Constantine, and yet began to despair of reaching its walls. We, however, continued our march on the 20th; and the army, with the exception of the baggage and the rear guard, reached the monument of Constantine, where it was forced to halt. The cold became excessive; many of the men had their feet frozen, and many perished in the night; for since we left Raz el Akba there was no more fuel to be obtained.”

The result of this unfortunate enterprise has wounded the national pride of France, and its newspapers have abounded with lamentations and complaints. After a long military career, in which he had gained a distinguished reputation, Marshal Clausel, the veteran commander, who was more than thirty years since raised to the rank of General of Division, has, in consequence of this reverse of fortune, had the mortification to have his skill and courage seriously impugned, and has been superseded in his command and recalled. A new and far more formidable expedition against Constantine was projected by the French government, to consist of upwards of twenty-five thousand men; and such of the troops as were to be sent from France, were directed to be embarked before the last of February; but it has been since stated that the government had determined to put it off till September, which indicates an intention to relinquish it entirely.

To return to English researches into African Geography. Measures were adopted for the formation of the Royal Geographical Society of London at a numerous meeting of the members of the Raleigh Traveller's Club, and several other gentlemen, held on the 24th of May, 1830. On the 16th of the succeeding July, the Society was fully organized; and on the 23d of July, 1831, the African Association was united with it. Its *Journal* comprises six volumes, which consist of geographical documents relating to countries situated in all the quarters of the globe, but chiefly to those countries of which the geography is but little known; and there are some interesting articles which treat of North Africa.

The first volume contains a “Geographical Notice of the Empire of Morocco,” by Lieutenant, now Captain, Washington, the present Secretary of the Society. It is accompanied by a map, respecting which the author remarks, after mentioning the assistance of which he had availed himself; “with such

help there is no hesitation in asserting, that the present is by far the most correct map hitherto completed of the Empire of Morocco." This communication of Lieutenant Washington was made use of by M. D'Avezac in the preparation of his "*Études de Géographie Critique.*" The following remarks are quoted from Lieutenant Washington.

"*Berēbers* and *Shellūhs* inhabit the mountain range of Atlas; the former the northeastern part, as far as the province of Tedla, the latter thence to the southwest. They live chiefly in villages of houses built of stones and mud, with slate roofs, occasionally in tents, and even in caves; their chief occupation is that of hunters, yet they cultivate the ground and rear many bees. Their mode of life renders them more robust and active than their neighbours of the plains. They are probably the aborigines of this country, direct descendants of Ham, and have been driven to the mountains by the incursions of the Arabs and Moors. Their language has no resemblance to the Arabic, though many words of that language are in common use among the natives. It has long been a disputed point whether the *Shellūh* and *Berēber* are the same language. Jackson, who lived many years at Mogadore and Santa Cruz, declares they are not, and gives a specimen of eighteen words in the two languages, to show there is not the smallest resemblance. Of these eighteen words I have found five, in two different *Berēber* vocabularies, to be the same as in the *Shellūh* dialect. During our visit to the Atlas, we wrote down from the mouth of a native *Shellūh*, who had passed all his life there, some hundred words of that idiom. On our return home, finding that the British and Foreign Bible Society had lately acquired a translation of part of the Scriptures into one of the dialects of Northern Africa, I applied to them, who most liberally showed me their vocabulary, which proved to be compiled from a manuscript in the *Berēber* language. Upon comparing this with my own made among the *Shellūhs*, I found twenty words, in common use, exactly alike, a catalogue of which I subjoin; —

<i>English.</i>	<i>Arabic.</i>	<i>Berēber.*</i>	<i>Shellūh.</i>
Bread	El Khobs	Aghroum	Aghroom
Camel	Jimmel	Araam	Arume

* "My authorities for the *Berēber*, are 'Hodgson on the *Berebber Language*,' published in the *American Philosophical Transactions*, volume IV., and another compiled by a Frenchman, long resident at Algiers, I believe M. Venture. See Appendix to Langlès' French Translation of *Hornemann's Travels*.

"When these papers were read before the Society, it was asserted that these languages were not alike; in the conversation that arose after the reading was finished, a contrary opinion was expressed, and it was intimated that Mr. Barrow (who is of the highest authority in any point connected with Africa) thought differently, upon which further inquiry was made. — The result is given above."

<i>English.</i>	<i>Arabic.</i>	<i>Berèber.</i>	<i>Shel'uh.</i>
Call (to)	Tsāta	Kerar (imp.)	Ir-kerah
Dates	Tamar	Tene Icayn	Teene Icayn
Dinner	El-iftor	Imquilli	Imkelli
Eat (to)	Akal	En-nitch	Ai-nish
Eyes	Ayūn	Allen	Alen
Feet	Rijlain	Etarran	Idarn
Give me	Ara	Efikie	Fikihie
Honey	Asel	Tament	Tamint
Man	Rajel	Erghaz	Argaz
Mountain	Jebel	Addrar	Adderar
Morning	S'bagh	Zik	Zik
Nose	Anf	Thinzarth	Tinzah
Slave	El abd	Isimgham	Issemg'h
Sultan	Sultan	Aghoullid	Aglid
To-morrow	Elgad	Ezikkah	Azghah
Water	Elma	Aman	Aman
Village	Dshar	Theddert	Thedderth
Woman	Murrah	Temthout	Tamtoot
Year	Sanat	Esougas	Acsougaz

“ These two languages cannot be very dissimilar ; in fact I have little doubt that they are dialects of the same. Further examination is necessary, and a knowledge of the circumstances under which the translation was formed ; but if, as I strongly suspect to be the case, a vocabulary derived from a native of one of the *Kabyles* or clans, which inhabit Atlas southeast of Algiers, and that from a native of the mountains south of Morocco, prove to be the same, we shall have obtained a key to a language spoken throughout the mighty range of Atlas, and extending from *Baheereh* on the banks of the Nile, to Cape Noon on the Atlantic Ocean, a distance of more than two thousand miles. Nay more, there is every reason to believe that the Berèber is the native idiom of all northern Africa. It is the language of the Mozabies ; the Wadrégans ; the Wurgelans ; the Tuaryks ; and Berèber words may be traced on the confines of Egypt and Abyssinia.” — pp. 142, 143.

The fourth volume of the *Journal of the Society* contains an extract from the “ *Journal of Travels of Sir Grenville Temple in the Beylik of Tunis.* ” “ The numberless and stately remains of Roman architecture,” it is remarked, “ which still crown every hill, and moulder in every valley of the regency of Tunis, speak more for the energy and civilizing influence of the Cæsars, than the greatness of Rome itself.”

The magnificent amphitheatre of the ancient Tysdrus, or Tis-dra, now called El Jemme, is briefly noticed by Dr. Shaw ;

but we have not before met with any detailed description of it.

“ Though yielding,” says Sir Grenville Temple, “ in magnitude and splendor to the Coliseum, it is still one of the most perfect, vast, and beautiful remains of former times which exist, to our knowledge; or, as I should perhaps more correctly state, to my own individual knowledge; combining in itself more of those united properties, than any other building which I can at this moment bring to my recollection.”

“ The length of the amphitheatre of *Tysdrus*, which extends nearly east and west, is 429 by 368 feet; and that of the arena, 238 by 182 feet. These two latter measurements are taken from the inner *existing* wall, the real boundary of the arena being uncertain. The height of the level of the first gallery is 33 feet, and to the summit of the edifice 96 feet. It possesses four ranges of pillars and arches, 60 in number in each, or rather in the three lower ones, for the fourth is a pilastrade, elevated on a stylobata, with a square window in every third inter-pilaster. The capitals are of that species of the composite order which we see on Diocletian's Pillar at Alexandria, with a slight variation between the second range and those composing the first and third. At each extremity was a grand entrance; but the west one, together with an arch on each side of it, was destroyed, together with the same portion of the whole superstructure, about one hundred years ago, by Muhamed Bey, who thereby wished to prevent the possibility of the amphitheatre being converted into a strong and vast fortress by some tribes of Arabs, then in open revolt against his authority. A very small portion also of the exterior wall of the fourth or upper story remains to this day. The interior of this magnificent building is in a far more dilapidated state than the exterior, which, with the abovementioned exceptions, may be stated to be in complete preservation; but great part of the vaulted and inclined plane, which supported the seats, the galleries, and the vomitoria, are still left. The galleries and stairs leading to the different stages were supported by arches and vaults, composed, not like the rest of the building, of large *pierres de taille*, but of a mass of small stones and mortar; and they have, consequently, in many places fallen in. Under the surface of the arena, as in those of the Coliseum and Amphitheatre of Capua, are seen passages, and little chambers for containing the wild beasts, as well as square apertures opening upon the arena, up which were raised the lions and tigers, enclosed in boxes made on the principle of the pigeon-traps used at shooting-matches, whose sides, on reaching the summit, being unsupported by the walls of the tunnel, fell to the ground, and, working on the hinges which joined them to the bottom of the box, left the

ferocious monsters at once exposed to the view of the spectators."

"The following list may perhaps prove interesting, as showing the rank in magnitude which this amphitheatre holds among edifices of the same nature." — pp. 256, 257.

	Extreme length.	Extreme breadth.	Length of arena.	Breadth of arena.	Height.
Coliseum . . .	615½	510	281	176	164
Verona . . .	506	405	247	145	
El Jemme . . .	429	368	238	182	96
Nismes . . .	430	338			76
Pola . . .	416	337			
Side (Karamania)	409		125		79
Utica . . .	363	240			
Pæstum . . .	211	151			
Capua . . .					
Pompeii . . .					
Syracuse . . .	300	230	180	100	
Carthage . . .	240	200	150	110	
Thapsus . . .	160	113			

Next to the course and termination of the Niger, the object of greatest interest, in modern times, in relation to the geography of the interior of Africa, has been the city of Tombuctoo, of which our knowledge is yet very imperfect. Part I. of the sixth volume of the *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society* contains a very interesting communication from the Rev. G. C. Renouard, Foreign Secretary of the Society, read on the 25th of April, 1836, entitled "Routes in North Africa by Abû Bekr es siddik," who is stated to be a native of Tombuctoo, who has been twenty-seven years a slave in Jamaica, and who is now on his return to his native city as companion in travel to Mr. Davidson. — The name of this city is variously written, Tombuctoo, or Timbuctoo; by Mr. Renouard, Tumbuktú; and by Abû Bekr, Tumbut or Tumbuttu. Mr. Renouard writes as follows.

"Whoever has perused the lively and amusing letters on the West Indies, which were the fruit of Dr. Madden's residence in Jamaica, will be no stranger to the name of Edward Donellan, a negro, who attracted the notice of that active and benevolent magistrate, by the excellence of his moral character, and the superiority of his literary attainments. Dr. Madden, whose travels in the East had made him acquainted with the Arabic character, was not a little surprised to see it written with some neatness and great rapidity by a negro slave; and his surprise was increased when he found that this slave had scarcely attained his fifteenth year when he was torn from his friends and country, and con-

veyed, with the prospect of perpetual slavery, to a very distant land. When, in addition to this, he found that this slave was no idolater, but a very sincere worshipper of 'the one true God,' and that, consistently with a faith comparatively so pure, his moral conduct had obtained for him the respect of his equals and masters, his anxiety to release him from such degrading thralldom was wound up to the highest pitch. He applied without delay to Mr. Anderson, the slave's master, requesting him to fix a price, that steps might be taken forthwith for his redemption. But he applied in vain. Mr. Anderson declared that no price could recompense him for the loss of this slave's services. His integrity was such, that any sums might be confided to him; and such was his intelligence, that he kept a constant account of all the daily receipts and payments, of the rations allowed to the slaves, of articles brought into the premises, and of goods delivered from the stores. This report, as may be easily conceived, was only an additional stimulus to Dr. Madden's benevolence. He failed not to press on Mr. Anderson's attention the peculiar hardships of this poor man's case, — born in his own country in a distinguished rank, blessed with a learned education, and retaining, through his own talents, industry, and integrity, a large portion of those acquirements and that respect, which he would have obtained in a very eminent degree, had he escaped the degradation of slavery. Mr. Anderson was not insensible to these powerful arguments, and with a liberality truly characteristic of the British character, replied; 'That though the services of his slave were too valuable for him to fix any price upon him, he would give that liberty for which no sum of money could be named as an adequate equivalent.' In consequence of this generous resolution, Dr. Madden had the satisfaction of receiving Edward Donellan's manumission by Mr. Anderson, according to all the legal forms, in a crowded court. Finding that Donellan, whose Mohammedan name is Abú Bekr, was desirous of returning to his own country, Dr. Madden determined to assist him in effecting so desirable an object; and not long after the publication of his letters, in which Donellan's narrative was first printed, he recommended him to Mr. Davidson, an enterprising traveller, who had resolved to make another attempt to reach Tumbukú. Abú Bekr, in the mean time, had come over to this country under the care of Captain Oldrey, R. N., another of the auxiliary magistrates in Jamaica, who had cordially united in promoting the welfare of Donellan, both before and after Dr. Madden's departure from the West Indies. In Morocco, Mr. Davidson was prevented by various circumstances from passing, as he intended, through Fez and Táfilelt, in his way to the Sahrá or Great Desert; but having been required to attend on the King at the

capital, his medical skill and attention to his numerous patients secured for him that favor and permission to proceed, which at first seemed utterly unattainable; and after passing about two months there, he was suffered to proceed to Mogadore in his way to Wád Nún, whence caravans set out on their journey to Negroland. While at Morocco, they met some persons who were acquainted with members of Abú Bekr's family, and informed them that one of his relations is at present governor of Tumbuktú.

"The narrative of his life, from which the following abstract is taken, was written after his arrival in this country, in the presence of a friend with whom he was spending a few days in the neighbourhood of London. It is no doubt the same in substance as that compiled from his oral communication by Dr. Madden while in Jamaica, and printed in his work. It agrees, almost word for word, with another account of his life, drawn up while he was on his voyage from New York, at the request of Captain Oldrey. All these papers were written in the Arabic language, — the only one which Abú Bekr had ever learned; for his accounts and memorandums, which were so useful to his employers, would have been of no service without his interpretation, as, though expressed in the English tongue, they were written in the Arabic character, and the difficulty of deciphering negro-English, so expressed, may be easily imagined.

"But it is time to allow Abú Bekr to speak for himself. His narrative is thus headed: — 'This is an account of the beginning of my life.

"'My name is Abú Bekr es siddik: my birthplace is Tumbut. I was educated in the town of Jenneh (Genneh), and fully instructed in reading and construing the Korán, — but in the interpretation of it by the help of commentaries. This was [done] in the city of Ghónah, where there are many learned men ['ulemà], who are not natives of one place, but each of them, having quitted his own country, has come and settled there.' " — pp. 100 — 102.

He proceeds with his narrative, and from this it is collected that he was born at Tombuctoo about the year 1794. His father is stated to have been of the royal family; to have removed from Tombuctoo to Jenneh when Abú Bekr was two years old, and to have died two years after at Ghónah. His mother was a native of the city of Bornú. His grandfather, Omar, was an alcaid or magistrate in Tombuctoo and in Jenneh. About five years after his father's death, he went with his instructor to Ghónah, where he appears to have remained about three years, when a war broke out between Ghónah and Buntukkú; and in a hard-fought battle, the King or Sultan of

Ghónah was defeated, and Abû Bekr fell into the hands of the conquerors. His narrative proceeds ; —

“ On that day was I made a slave. They tore off my clothes, bound me with ropes, laid on me a heavy burden, and carried me to the town of Buntukkú, and from thence to the town of Kumasí, the King of Ashantí's town. From thence through Askumá, and Ajimmakúh, in the land of Fantí, to Daghóh, near the salt sea.

“ There they sold me to the Christians, and I was bought by a certain captain of a ship at that town. He sent me to a boat, and delivered me to the people of the ship. We continued on board ship, at sea, for three months, and then came on shore in the land of Jamaica. This was the beginning of my slavery until this day. I tasted the bitterness of slavery from them,* and its oppressiveness : but praise be to God, under whose power are all things, He doth whatsoever he willeth ! No one can turn aside that which He hath ordained, nor can any one withhold that which He hath given ! As God Almighty himself hath said, — Nothing can befall us unless it be written for us (in his book) ! He is our master : in God, therefore, let all the faithful put their trust !

“ The faith of our families is the faith of Islám. They circumcise the foreskin ; say the five prayers ; † fast every year in the month of Ramadán ; give alms as ordained in the law ; marry [only] four free women, — a fourth is forbidden to them except she be their slave ; they fight for the faith of God ; perform the pilgrimage [to Mecca] — *i. e.* such as are able so to do ; eat the flesh of no beast but what they have slain for themselves ; drink no wine, — for whatever intoxicates is forbidden unto them ; they do not keep company with those whose faith is contrary to theirs, — such as worshippers of idols, men who swear falsely by the name of the Lord, who dishonor their parents, commit murder or robbery, bear false witness, are covetous, proud, insolent, hypocrites, unclean in their discourse, or do any other thing that is forbidden. They teach their children to read, and [instruct them in] the different parts of knowledge ; their minds are perfect and blameless according to the measure of their faith.

“ Verily I have erred and done wickedly, but I entreat God to guide my heart in the right path, for He knoweth what is in my heart, and whatever [can be pleaded] in my behalf.

“ Finished in the month of August, on the 29th day, in the year of the Messiah 1834 [1835].”

* That is, the people of Buntukkú, Ashantí, and Fantí. This is more distinctly expressed in another paper written by him.”

† That is, pray five times a-day.”

Mr. Renouard infers that Abú Bekr was in his fourteenth year when he fell into the hands of the Ashantis [Ashantees], and was sent as a slave to the West Indies in 1807 or 1808 ; and that he passed about twenty-seven years as a slave in Jamaica ; first, as a slave of a stone-mason named Donellan, subsequently of Mr. Haynes, and finally of Mr. Anderson. He was baptized by the name of Edward Donellan, but it does not appear that he was much instructed in the Christian religion.

“ He never,” says Mr. Renouard, “ had opportunity to learn to read or write English, but in the accounts which he kept for his master, Mr. Anderson, he put every thing in negro-English, and in the Arabic character, and read it off to the overseer in the evening. Though far from being able to write Arabic with strict grammatical accuracy, or possessing the command of an abundant stock of words and phrases, his power of expressing himself in that copious and difficult tongue, and the clearness and facility with which he writes its characters, are truly surprising, when his peculiar circumstances are taken into account. His acquaintance with the Korán is remarkable. He must have known it almost by heart, as he declared that he had never seen a copy of it from the time he left Ghónah, till one was put into his hands by the writer of this paper. He was not old enough, he said, when captured, to enter on a course of logic and rhetoric, or to study the commentaries on the Korán ; but he knew the names of the most celebrated commentators. This is a plain proof of the superior civilization of the negroes in the interior over those near the coast ; and, however incredible at first sight, it is confirmed by Burckhardt’s account of the Shaíkíyah Arabs in Meroë, and the well-written Arabic despatches from Bello’s court, now in the records of the Foreign Office.”

“ Of the kindness of his present master, he speaks in terms of the warmest gratitude ; and Mr. Davidson, on his part, fully appreciates his merits. Should that enterprising traveller be so fortunate as to reach Tumbuktú in safety, he will find, independently of the rank, which, it seems, Abú Bekr’s relations hold, that so faithful, affectionate, and intelligent an interpreter is a treasure, the value of which cannot be too highly estimated.”

In Part II. of the sixth volume of the Journal of the Geographical Society is found a letter from Mr. Davidson, dated Wad Noon, 22d May, 1836, “ written on the ground in an Arab tent swarming with vermin.” From the extract which we give from this letter, it will be manifest that an expedition

to Tombuctoo differs somewhat from a journey undertaken among us for purposes of pleasure ; and the mode of subsistence will perhaps appear little more desirable than that of "living without means." Mr. Davidson complains of "vexatious and expensive delays, which have tended to damp his spirits and throw doubts upon his success ; that every thing that could be urged had been most forcibly used to dissuade him from undertaking the journey at that season of the year, and great doubt as to whether even the children of the desert would make the attempt ; — the heat would be too oppressive for him to bear ; the wells would in all probability be dry," &c. &c. "But he had, notwithstanding, resolved on going." He proceeds ;

"The Sheik Khurfee, whose friendship I have purchased, takes charge of me by command of his superior, Sheik Beyrook. This man, now advanced in years, has made the journey twenty times, and four of these by a direct line from Wad Noon, having once performed the journey in twenty-five days. He tells me, if I can bear it, he will take me in thirty-five, as he wishes to show me two places where we are to stop a day or two, or he will make it in forty days. He states there are but two wells on the whole route ; these will very likely be dry. We carry water for forty days, but he tells me he shall not give me any water on the road only at two halts ; that the *herie* I am to ride will give me milk, and that he hopes to make me one of the *Eshrub el Rukh*, which performs the whole journey without eating, its allowance being camel's milk. I find I can work hard the whole day upon a draught of this, its satisfying quality being such that no other food is required. I have been some time in training ; a small portion of meat but every other day, no bread, a little tea ; and milk, the day I do not take meat. With the exception of my stay at Mogadore, I have had no bed for five months ; I can nearly warrant myself sun-proof, my face, hands, and arms, feet and legs, having been three times excoriated. I have now acquired the power of resisting the action of the sun ; I have adopted, in toto, the Arab dress, and am nearly as brown as some of the Paria caste.

"From this we are to set out on the 6th of June, that being one of their lucky days ; so that by the time this reaches you, I hope, please God, to have arrived, or nearly, at Timbuctoo."

But by another letter from Mr. Davidson, dated Glamiz Wad Noon, September 25th, read in the Royal Geographical Society, November 21st, and published in the London news-

papers, it appears he did not proceed at the time and in the manner he expected. In this letter he states that he was then expecting, after this long additional delay, to proceed in company with a large caravan, in two or three days.

"Our arrangement, at present, is," he says, "that I travel in company with the whole of the *Tajacanth*s, who are here to the number of two hundred men and six hundred camels; one division, laden with corn and water, will start directly from the Sahara; a second of two hundred camels and sixty men, with the Sheiks, show themselves at the Sok, and then proceed to join the former at three days' journey from hence; thirty camels will carry my baggage, which you will say is no trifle; but the presents I am obliged to take, and the money, all in cowries, ten camel loads of which only equal £100 sterling, make it very bulky. We shall push on without delay to Towdeni, about six hundred miles across the Desert, where all the camels will load with salt for Soudan; this will detain us ten days; at this place, and at El Arawan, two hundred miles farther, are the only spots at which we shall get meat; our usual food will be barley and dates ground up together, and moistened with milk or water. I have lately had a trial of this fare, as I have been on an excursion of ten days; part of it through a beautiful country, as to scenery, but wholly without drinkable water. We started many herds of gazelles, &c.; the heat we found excessive, as much as 112° in our tents at midnight, yet I did not suffer, though my companion, Abú Bekr, felt it much."

Further intelligence from Mr. Davidson is awaited with the strongest interest.

ART. V.—*The Life of Oliver Goldsmith, M. B., from a Variety of Original Sources.* By JAMES PRIOR, Author of "The Life of Burke," &c. Two Volumes, 8vo. London. 1837.

UNLESS we have lived with a celebrated man, or studied human life well, we may be often surprised at the fluctuations of his temper and conduct; at the inconsistencies and contradictions (for so in our ignorance they appear to us) in his character. If we know him at first from general reputation only,